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Renata B. Hesse - Antitrust Division

This Fax is From:

Rep. David M. Lawton

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2

Comments:

— Commentary regarding the
microsoft settlement for
your consideration.

JD

Reply Necessary: YES

NO

X

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONCORD

January 21, 2002

Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

Dear Ms. Hesse:

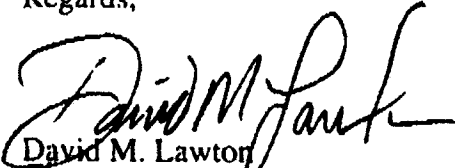
There is a growing sentiment among economists that we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel of our nation's recession. The markets are improving, and the economic forecast is generally positive. However, state revenues are down and most states will have to consider tough cuts on spending in coming budgets.

One thing that can be done to aid states' economies is to end the Microsoft lawsuit. I am writing in support of the nine states and the Department of Justice's settlement agreement. It is a fair and reasonable agreement which brings a satisfactory conclusion to this long-running antitrust case.

As the old saying goes, a rising tide floats all boats. And just as a rising tide will float a boat sitting at the lowest point first, so the resolution of this case will help those who have the farthest to rise first.

The technology-driven "innovation economy" has created tremendous opportunities for the citizens of New Hampshire. But we must act now to take some of the uncertainty out of economy. I urge you to endorse this settlement agreement which would provide states greater confidence in fiscal planning and would allow entrepreneurs and businesses to get back to the business of creating new and better products for consumers.

Regards,


David M. Lawton
State Representative
Belknap County District #1
603-279-8382

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